

### **REMARKS**

The Office Action of February 17, 2004 has been received and reviewed. Claims 26-36 and 38 are currently pending in the application. Claims 26-34 and 36 stand allowed, and claims 35 and 38 stand rejected. Claims 35 and 38 have been canceled as set forth herein. All cancellations are made without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

#### **Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph**

Claims 35 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as assertedly not being enabling. Although applicants do not agree that claims 35 and 38 are not enabling, to expedite prosecution, claims 35 and 38 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer rendering the rejections thereof moot.

### **ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS**

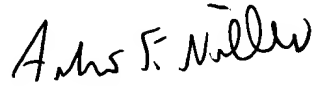
The proposed cancellations of claims 35 and 38 should be entered by the Examiner because the cancellations should place the application in condition for allowance.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants respectfully submit that the claims define patentable subject matter. Should the Office determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, the Office is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the address or telephone number given herein.

Serial No. 09/621,593

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew F. Nilles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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